

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

BETTING (TOTALIZATOR AGENCY) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1978

ORDINANCE NO. 30 OF 1978

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Betting (Totalizator Agency) (Amendment) Ordinance 1978 amends the Betting (Totalizator Agency) Ordinance 1964 (the Principal Ordinance) by varying the provisions that allow the Totalizator Agency Board to make payments to race clubs, by repealing the provisions that prevent the Board from providing waiting rooms at its offices and agencies, by providing that the Board's accounting year shall be divided into thirteen accounting periods and by allowing the Board to establish a Reserve Account for the repayment of amounts borrowed and to meet the costs of expenditure of a capital nature.

Section 4 of the Ordinance repeals Sections 23(1), 23(2) and 23(3) of the Principal Ordinance. Sections 23(1) and 23(2) prohibited the Board from providing waiting rooms or seating accommodation for members of the public in its offices and agencies and prohibited the Board from allowing radio or television receivers in any part of an office or agency, other than an office or agency on a racecourse, that was open to the public. Section 23(3) provided that an offence was committed if a person who managed or controlled an agency or office of the Board allowed that office or agency to be used in contravention of Section 23(1).

The Principal Ordinance provided in Section 29 that the Board should, at the beginning of each month, set aside certain amounts in an account for the purpose of making payments to the Council of Race Clubs and such other race clubs as the Minister, on the recommendation of the Board, approved. Payments were made from this account as the Minister, on the recommendation of the Board determined. Section 7 of the Ordinance repealed Section 29 and replaced it with a new provision which provides that, at the beginning of each accounting period, the Board shall, for the purpose of making payments to prescribed race clubs, set aside in an account in its books an amount equal to one per cent of the amount of bets accepted by the Board during the preceding accounting period.

The Ordinance provides that these moneys be distributed to prescribed race clubs in accordance with a formula which relates the amount of payments to a club to the proportion of total bets accepted by the Board in the period generated by the type of racing conducted by the club. The Board shall not make such payments without the approval of the Minister. The Ordinance also provides for the situation when the Minister does not approve a particular payment to a club and for the distribution of any surplus moneys held by the Board at the end of an accounting year.

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